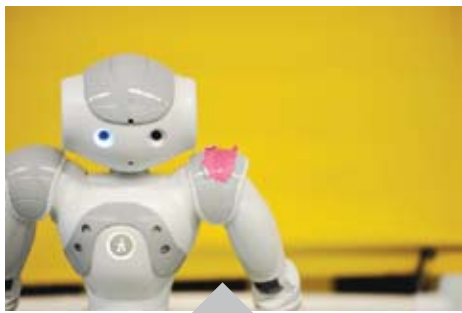


THE DAILY TEXAN

Serving the University of Texas at Austin community since 1900



Soccer struggles offensively in 1-0 loss to South Carolina in NCAA Tournament

SPORTS PAGE 7

Beep, boop: Robots play soccer, drive cars

LIFE & ARTS PAGE 12

>> Breaking news, blogs and more: www.dailytexanonline.com [@thedailytexan](https://twitter.com/thedailytexan) facebook.com/dailytexan

Monday, November 14, 2011

THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

Bike around the Blanton

Parking and Transportation Services is hosting a town hall to discuss bike pathways and options around the Blanton Museum. The forum will be at Student Activity Center 2.302 from 8 - 9:30 a.m. Unable to attend? Tweet your thoughts to PTS using the #BikeAroundBlanton hashtag.

TUESDAY

Journalist on campus

The Tom Johnson Lectureship presents its inaugural lecture with veteran journalist and UT alumnus Bill Moyers. The lecture will be held at the LBJ auditorium from 6-7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Mackin' ain't easy

Mac Miller is performing at Stubb's BBQ at 7 p.m. The show is sold out, but you can still find tickets on StubHub.

THURSDAY

See for free

Visit the Blanton Museum for Third Thursday, a free evening of art and activities. The evening starts at 5 p.m.

FRIDAY

Codename: Awesome

Ghostland Observatory is performing at the Moody Theater. Doors open at 8 p.m.

Today in history

In 1992

The British Broadcasting Company (BBC) began its first radio broadcast in the United Kingdom.



Quote to note

"I was so excited I couldn't sleep. I probably didn't go to bed until 3 a.m. On behalf of the six freshmen I'll say that we're very excited to get that first win out of the way."

— **Myck Kabongo**
Basketball player

SPORTS PAGE 7

Whittaker's career ends with injury



By **Trey Scott**
Daily Texan Columnist

Sports writers don't root for teams, they root for storylines. Something new to write about, some story to tell, something that makes this week different than last week.

For most of this season, that storyline was the comeback of Fozzy Whittaker. Injured for most of his career, the fifth-

year running back was healthy. He had gotten stronger, faster. He was the consummate teammate.

That's what makes the gruesome knee injury he suffered Saturday against Missouri — one that ends his collegiate career — even harder to stomach.

When we first saw Whittaker this year, in July at Big 12 Media Days, we swarmed upon him with questions regarding the much-hyped Malcolm Brown. "Hey, Fozzy, how does Mal-

colm look? What's his personality like? Is he ready to put Texas on his back?"

Never mind that he had been discounted for somebody four years his junior, Whittaker swallowed his pride and answered everything. Forget that he himself had worked incredibly hard to get in game shape for his final season of football. Those who awaited the arrivals of Brown and Joe Bergeron as the saviors of the Texas offense had ruled out Whittaker.

In the weeks leading up to this new

season, The Daily Texan crafted a long-winded feature, "The Texan's 10 Most Important Longhorns." Whittaker didn't make the cut. Didn't even sniff it. To many, it was a matter of time before Fozzy would take a backseat. When he was listed for the Rice game as the starter at tailback, many saw it as simply a courtesy — a few last go-rounds before the talented Brown gives the coaches no choice but to start him.

Fast forward a few games, a few 100-yard kickoff returns, lots of touchdowns

and total yards and many "Wild Fozzy" formations. Whittaker had indeed conceded the starting job to Brown. Never complained about it. Instead, he became the mentor to the two fresh-

TEXAS FOOTBALL:

Recap of Saturday's game.
On page 7

FOZZY continues on PAGE 2

ALL IN A DAY'S RACE



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

Crowds gathered to support participants of 21st street Street Co-op's sixth annual MF 100, a bike race that challenges teams to circle the co-op 100 times while dodging water balloons, a gang of costumed police women and carousing team members while also stopping for obstacles.

INSIDE: Read more about the MF 100 on page 12 ONLINE: See a slideshow of the race at bit.ly/mf_100

UT professor authors study examining staff efficiency

By **Liz Farmer**
Daily Texan Staff

On average, University faculty members generate more money than they make with their research and teaching, according to a UT professor who authored a study on faculty instructional and grant-based productivity.

The study analyzes UT System data by breaking faculty down into tenured and tenure-track professors, graduate students and other faculty. The study's author, sociology professor and associate liberal arts dean Marc Musick, said the results are limited because productivity measurements can't provide an accurate picture of all the work professors do, especially with the data provided by the UT System.

"The report shows that the faculty are productive, but we can be more productive," Musick said.

Musick said the UT System data provided faculty salary, benefits, the

FACULTY continues on PAGE 2



Zachary Strain | Daily Texan Staff

Professor of architecture Lawrence Speck speaks about the architectural significance of Battle Hall at Jessen Auditorium on Friday night. Following the lecture, faculty and students were invited to view original blue prints of Battle Hall and tour the building.

Battle Hall reaches 100th anniversary

By **Andrew Messamore**
Daily Texan Staff

During the celebration of Battle Hall's centennial anniversary, architecture professor Lawrence Speck said architecture has become too reliant on imagery, forgetting its roots in the visceral and corporal experience of a building.

Battle Hall, which was designed by Cass Gilbert for UT and finished in 1911, is one of the 150 favorite buildings in American architecture, according to the American Institute of Architects. As part of a celebration of the 100th anniversary

of its creation, which was sponsored by the Texas Exes, the School of Architecture and University of Texas Libraries, Battle Hall opened its doors to students and faculty Friday evening. Speck kicked the celebration off with a lecture where he weaved comments on the state of architecture together with stories of his own family's experiences of Battle Hall.

"Good buildings make an incredible difference in the world, and I'm tired of looking at buildings as just a style," Speck said. "Architecture is an experience that changes people's lives, and Battle Hall is a

building that has shaped us, UT and our community."

After the lecture, interested guests took part in a guided tour of Battle Hall to see original blueprints of the building recently retrieved from New York City by the Texas Heritage Society, said Jim Nicar, director of campus relations for Texas Exes.

"We've been working on this for around two years now," Nicar said. "Almost all 45 of these works had been in the New-York Historical Society, and this is the first time the

BUILDING continues on PAGE 2

Students collaborate, explore ways to solve drug cartel violence

By **Sylvia Butanda**
Daily Texan Staff

Border violence and security in relation to drug consumption in the United States drove one group of American and Mexican students to propose an awareness campaign that highlights the connection between drug use in the United States and cartel violence in Mexico.

The Innovation and Creativity Institute, a cross-discipline UT research unit, partnered with Espacio de Vinculación A.C., a nonprofit organization that holds events to connect different areas of society in sev-

eral countries, and Univision to host the first annual Jornadas Fronterizas conference on campus Friday and Saturday. The conference brought 80 students from the United States and Mexico together in order to examine the several issues facing the border and come up with accessible solutions for those problems.

Six teams focused on specific border issues in two-day workshops in which they discussed and agreed on the problems and presented their final solutions.

All the teams came up with

VIOLENCE continues on PAGE 2



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

Victor Garay listens to a lecture Saturday afternoon about start-up companies during the first annual 'Jornadas Fronterizas' in the Student Activity Center. The two-day conference brought students from Mexico and the U.S. together to discuss border issues and solutions.

THE DAILY TEXAN

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FOR THE RECORD

Correction: Because of a reporting error, Friday's article about the firing of Joe Paterno should have stated Glenn Frankel is the director of the School of Journalism. Also, Frankel said there have been many recent examples of authority figures falling from grace, but the only equivalent example he recalls covering during his professional career was Margaret Thatcher's resignation as prime minister of the U.K.

TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High

83

Low

68

And Kabongo was his name-o.

FOZZY

continues from PAGE 1

man tailbacks. In the meantime, Whittaker carved out a niche for himself: kick-returning extraordinaire, master of the red zone, leader of the team. After years of idolizing Captain America — Fozzy has a shield, shirts, backpacks, posters — he finally had become a hero of sorts of the football field.

“He really has been Captain America,” tight end Blaine Irby said. “He’s been unbelievable this season.”

Whittaker was named to the Sports Illustrated’s All-American team at midseason as a kick returner. In a recognition that carries less weight, The Daily Texan pinned him as the team’s Most Valuable Player halfway through the year. His 46.5 kick-return average led the nation a few weeks ago, and his nine touchdowns lead the team.

Fate struck an unfair blow. Injuries are as much a part of football as sweeps and power runs, sure, but how unfortunate that it had to hap-



L.G. Patterson | Associated Press

Fozzy Whittaker's season ended on Saturday when he tore his ACL and MCL. He leads Texas with nine touchdowns.

FACULTY

continues from PAGE 1

number of hours faculty members teach and grant expenditures. He said this left out important factors in faculty productivity such as mentoring students.

“Think about how good they’d look if we added all of these things on top of it,” Musick said.

Earlier this semester, Musick released a report on four-year graduation rates that compared UT to other public research universities. The report found that UT ranked 13th out of 120 for six-year graduation rates and second for the number of faculty employed per public dollar. Richard Vedder, director of the Center for College Affordability and Productivity, analyzed the data and found that 80 percent of the faculty teach smaller and fewer classes and should increase their teaching loads.

Former UT System special ad-

pen to the player who was finally healthy, who had battled injuries his entire career. Whittaker’s well-chronicled battle with sprains, tweaks, scrapes and hyperextensions had become a punch line of sorts. He would never be effective, we thought. And he gladly proved us wrong, doing all the things we never thought he’d be able to do and even some things we didn’t expect — Whittaker? Returning kickoffs? For all his hard work, he’ll come through the tunnel next week for Senior Day on crutches.

The sad twist to this story reminds one of the collapse of former Texas pitcher Taylor Jungmann this summer. Enjoying the best season in the country, the dominating Jungmann cruised to a 13-0 start before losing the final three games of his career, including a game against Florida in the College World Series in which the Longhorns held a 3-0 lead. Teary-eyed afterwards, Jungmann said he had no idea what had gone so wrong.

We know what happened to Whittaker: As has been the case throughout his time here, his body simply betrayed him. It’s another storyline, I suppose. But it sure is a heartbreaking one.

AN ARTISTIC FLOURISH



Marisa Vasquez | Daily Texan Staff

Barbara Lugge sits in Clayworks Gallery on East Sixth Street on Saturday evening. She was a guest artist showcasing her hand-stitched portraits as a part of the East Austin Studio Tour.

Homeless man convicted of Hyde Park tire slashing

By Nick Hadjigeorge
Daily Texan Staff

Tommy Joe Kelley was sentenced to 10 years in prison last week for the unlawful use of a criminal instrument to puncture car tires in the Hyde Park neighborhood.

David Conner, president of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, said Kelley was responsible for thousands of dollars of tire damage over the past 16 years, but his homelessness made it difficult to stop his actions.

“All we could do was just call the police when something happened,” Conner said. “Nobody could really do anything when he was just walking around the neighborhood.”

Conner said the Neighborhood Association was getting ready to install security cameras to record him puncturing tires, but he was arrested last December before they were installed.

Virginia Vasquez, judicial aid for Judge Julie Kocurek, said Kelley represented himself in trial and had his four other charges reset for trial next December.

“The trial started on Monday at 1:30 p.m. and ended Wednesday around 4 p.m.,” Vasquez said. “But he will be going to court again soon for his other charges.”

UT English alumna Taylor Moore said she saw homeless people, including Kelley, walking through Hyde Park frequently when she lived there.

“I would see him staring in the mirrors of cars and screaming at himself,” Moore said.

Moore said she had her tires damaged after an uncomfortable experience with Kelley.

“One day, he asked if I could give him a blanket and socks,” Moore said. “I only had a blanket to give him from my car, and he became really mad at me and said I was unkind.”

After this event, Moore said

she returned to her home in the morning and found that two of her tires were flat.

“The two driver’s side tires were flat, and the cost to repair was around \$250,” Moore said.

Moore said the damage to her tires matches the description of the tool Kelley was found using when he was arrested last December.

“At first, I didn’t notice any kind of hole in my tires, and I thought they were just flat,” Moore said. “AAA came and tried to fill them up, but they found many very small holes, so we knew it was intentional damage.”

Conner said he is happy with Kelley’s sentencing because he was causing more problems for Hyde Park than puncturing tires.

“He used to urinate and drink alcohol in the park,” Conner said. “He probably needs some mental help also, so hopefully the police and courts can take care of the situation.”

VIOLENCE

continues from PAGE 1

similar solutions that included community involvement, educational programs and awareness campaigns that will inform the public about the issue at hand.

The border violence and security group thought of the awareness campaign with the slogan, “Every time you’re chilling, you’re killing.”

“We wanted to highlight the disconnect between pop culture and drug culture in the U.S. and how it is related to the drug violence in Mexico,” said Georgia Kromrei, Spanish, Portuguese and Latin-American studies senior.

Kromrei is one of 12 UT students who attended the conference. She said she wanted to learn more about the border and to network with Mexican students.

“The issues of the border are critical to people on both sides,” Kromrei said. “Even though we

are geographically very close together, we are still far apart in many regards.”

The immigration and migration team planned informational campaigns to educate the American people about the discrimination illegal immigrants face and inform the Mexican people about the hardships that go along with crossing over.

Leslie Wise, global studies and international relations junior, proposed one of the team’s solutions in relation to the cheap labor economy that is provided by immigrants in the U.S.

“Our first proposal was to stop buying products from companies that support policies which cause unfair labor wages and abusive treatment towards immigrants in the workplace,” she said. “More importantly, we want to support companies that are conscious of the treatment of immigrants. It’s a start

that we can do as individuals.”

Marco Munoz, IC2 Institute’s associate director, said this program aimed to encourage the students to utilize all their innovative ideas.

“Their solutions can create a new reality on the border,” Munoz said. “This could be an example for other regions — not just in the U.S. and Mexico but in other countries as well.”

Fifteen students were selected to travel to Washington D.C. in May 2012 to propose their solutions to the Inter-American Development Bank, the largest source of development financing for Latin America, and government officials.

“They will be proposing their solutions to several lawmakers and organizations,” Munoz said. “I am very optimistic when I see young people exploring ideas and trying to solve problems that no one else has solved.”

THE DAILY TEXAN

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BUILDING

continues from PAGE 1

archives have been housed in their own building.”

Alumni and others who had been impacted by the building also returned to Battle Hall on Friday evening to celebrate its centennial, including Eloise Ellis, who served as librarian at Battle Hall from 1982 to 1995.

“It was a wonderful place to be — a delightful job,” Ellis said. “My favorite thing was the stairwell. It was all stone, but there are places where the stone has worn away over the years from people walking on it. I passionately love the school. I live on through it.”

Students also visited, especially those interested in UT’s history and the field of architecture.

“Being students, we have a

lot of interest in UT’s history and the second-oldest library on campus,” said architecture freshman Alex Dallas. “It helps you appreciate how much the University has grown.”

Others, like Speck, urged students and staff not to view Battle Hall as just a building but rather as an experience that changes lives.

“Today, we’ve reached a milestone for our University,” said Travis Willmann, communications officer for UT Libraries. “This building has had a history with presidents, the band and the architecture school over the past 100 years. This building has impacted so many students on campus, and when they think of UT, they will think of Battle Hall.”



Felipe Dana | The Associated Press

A police officer pats a boy on the head while on patrol in the Rocinha slum in Rio de Janeiro on Sunday. Elite police units, armored military vehicles and helicopters invaded the largest slum in this seaside city. It's the most ambitious attempt yet to bring security to a town long known for its violence.

Brazilian police increase slum security in preparation for World Cup, Olympics

By Bradley Brooks
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — More than 3,000 police and soldiers backed by armored personnel carriers raced into Brazil's biggest slum before dawn Sunday, gaining control of a slum long ruled by a drug gang.

The takeover of the Rocinha neighborhood was the most ambitious operation yet in an effort to increase security before Rio hosts the final matches of the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics.

The head of state security and chief architect of Rio's shantytown pacification program, Jose Mariano Beltrame, called the operation a major success and a big step toward breaking drug traffickers' hold on key parts of Rio.

"We have taken over areas that

for 30 or 40 years were in the hands of ... a parallel power," he said. "It's one of the biggest shantytowns in the Americas if not the world. We're returning dignity and territory to people."

The action in Rocinha is part of a campaign to drive the drug gangs out of the city's slums.

Authorities said it took just 90 minutes to seize control of Rocinha. Police simultaneously overran the neighboring Vidigal slum, also previously dominated by the Friends of Friends drug gang.

Both slums sit between two of Rio's richest neighborhoods. Police methodically cleared alleys and streets on their way up steep, winding roads.

Huey helicopters swarmed over the slum, crisscrossing the hill and flying low over the jungle sur-

rounding the slum, as police hunted down suspects who might have fled into the forest. By evening, police said they made just four arrests.

Police discovered a house they said belonged to the No. 2 gang leader, Sandro Luiz de Paula Amorim, known as "Peixe," who was captured by police when they encircled Rocinha with roadblocks.

In stark contrast to the impoverished shacks around it, Amorim's three-story home was outfitted with a large whirlpool bath, swimming pool, aquarium, high definition TV and a book: the ancient Chinese military text "Art of War."

A resident applauded the police. "Tell the world we're not all drug traffickers! We're working people and now they're coming to liberate us," a man yelled at police.

Leaders meet to discuss trans-Pacific free trade

By Elaine Kurtenbach
The Associated Press

HONOLULU — Pacific Rim leaders gathered for an annual summit in Hawaii pledged Saturday to work together to keep world growth on track, as President Barack Obama announced the broad outlines of a plan he said could serve as a model for a trans-Pacific free trade zone.

"There are still plenty of details to work out, but we are confident that we can do so. So we've directed our teams to finalize this agreement in the coming year," Obama said while seated beside leaders of eight other nations involved in setting up what has been dubbed the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

"It is an ambitious goal, but we are optimistic that we can get it done," he said.

The trade zone can serve as a model for the region and for other trade pacts, increasing U.S. exports and helping to create jobs in the fastest growing region in the world, said Obama, who made promoting the so-called TPP a priority in hosting this week's summit in his hometown, Honolulu.

Much of the work by Obama and other leaders at the summit of the 21-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum is aimed at fostering freer trade and closer cooperation to help fend off recession as Europe struggles to resolve its debt crisis.

"We have an enormous responsibility for supporting the wider world, a responsibility that no one nation could seek to carry alone — it can only be borne if we stand shoulder-to-shoulder," Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak said in remarks to be delivered later Saturday at the East West Center, a Honolulu think tank.

By removing barriers and bottlenecks that slow business, APEC members hope to re-energize growth at a time when the world economy most needs dynamism in the Asia-Pacific region to offset the malaise spreading from crisis-stricken Europe.

The outline announced by Obama and other leaders pledges to work toward eliminating tariffs and other barriers to trade and investment, facilitating trade and other business, harmonizing regulatory standards, aiding small and medium-size companies and contributing to development and poverty relief.

Japan, the world's third-largest economy, has also signaled it wants to join the negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and the Obama administration hopes other nations will be wooed as well. But China, which some economists say is on course to overtake the U.S. as the world's biggest economy this decade, has appeared lukewarm about the Pacific trade pact.

China's reluctance to endorse such a plan likely reflects its wariness of being drawn into what has become a U.S.-led initiative, even though the current TPP membership includes only Chile, New Zealand, Brunei and Singapore. The U.S., Australia, Malaysia, Vietnam and Peru are negotiating to join.

Chinese President Hu Jintao, in a speech to business leaders on the sidelines of the summit, reiterated China's support for an earlier-proposed APEC-wide free trade zone. On Friday, the country's trade minister, nonetheless, said Beijing would seriously consider joining the TPP if invited.

NEWS BRIEFLY

Interim leader takes control after Berlusconi's resignation

ROME — Economist Mario Monti accepted the task Sunday of trying to form a new government that can rescue Italy from financial ruin, expressing confidence that the nation can prevail if its people pull together.

Saturday, Berlusconi's party said it supports Monti, with conditions.

Italy is under intense pressure to quickly put in place a new and effective government to replace him, one that can push through even more painful reforms and austerity measures to deal with its staggering debts, which stand at \$2.6 trillion, or a huge 120 percent of economic output. Italy has to roll over a little more than \$410 billion of its debts next year alone.

Markets battered Italy this past week amid uncertainty that Berlusconi would resign and questions over whether Italy's divided parliament could support a replacement. But Italy's borrowing rates improved after President Giorgio Napolitano made clear he intended to tap the politically neutral economist Monti to try to head an interim government.

The head of the International Monetary Fund, Christine Lagarde, said Saturday that Italy's political transition over the next few days should send a "clear sign of clarification and of credibility" that the country is now getting its finances back in order.

The IMF will oversee Italy's efforts to pull itself back from an economic disaster, monitoring how it implements reforms to shrink debt and spur growth, which is projected at a scant 0.6 percent this year and 0.3 percent next year.

While the euroskeptic Northern League remained opposed to Monti's nomination, some lawmakers suggested they could support a Monti-led government to enact the additional EU-demanded reforms before elections are held in early 2012.

— The Associated Press

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Men and Women 18 to 60	Up to \$1200	Healthy BMI between 18 and 30	Fri. 2 Dec. through Sun. 4 Dec. Fri. 9 Dec. through Sun. 11 Dec. Outpatient Visit: 15 Dec.
Men and Women 18 to 55	Up to \$2400	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 19 and 30 Weigh at least 110 for Women and 130 for Men	Fri. 2 Dec. through Mon. 5 Dec. Fri. 9 Dec. through Mon. 12 Dec. Fri. 16 Dec. through Mon. 19 Dec.

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QUOTES TO NOTE

Report reaffirms faculty productivity

Marc Musick, associate dean for student affairs, released another report last week analyzing the productivity of UT faculty. The report comes amid controversy surrounding the efficiency of higher education in Texas. The following quotes are from Musick's report unless otherwise noted.

"There is a common belief that at UT-Austin and other major research universities, professors only conduct research, get grants and teach graduate students. ... The data demonstrates that this belief is simply not true."

"[The] differences between the expectations and abilities of instructors at different faculty ranks make them virtually incomparable for productivity purposes."

"[The report] finds, in general, that the 1,988 tenured and tenure track professors at the University of Texas at Austin work very hard for their students and provide an incredible return on investment for the state."

"We need to be very careful moving forward if we're going to measure faculty productivity."

— Musick in response to a question about the UT System's plan to establish a productivity dashboard that will show up-to-date measures of productivity across the system.

The birth of the MyEdu deal

The following quotes are from emails and documents obtained by The Daily Texan through the Texas Public Information Act regarding the UT System's \$10-million investment in MyEdu. The unique partnership, announced Oct. 18, gives the system a 22.5-percent stake in the company.

"John Cunningham is Bill Cunningham's son. He started this business some time ago, and it has really taken off. I believe Bill has supported it, too."

— Randa Safady, UT System's vice chancellor for external relations, in an email to UT System spokesman Anthony de Bruyn, with carbon copies sent to Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa and several other system officials on July 5. According to the Austin American-Statesman, Cigarroa said he was unaware of the investment made by former chancellor and UT president William Cunningham in MyEdu but also said he was under no obligation to disclose it and that it was not pertinent to the deal. In all the emails obtained by The Daily Texan, Cunningham is never mentioned or involved in brokering the deal.

"My type of tempo! That is why I like to play fast Flamenco music!"

— Cigarroa in a playful email to MyEdu CEO Michael Crosno on Sept. 7 acknowledging Crosno's enthusiasm in getting started with the project. The agreement was signed Sept. 13.

"I am pleased to convey that the agreements with MyEdu have been finalized, and now the tangible work of implementation, including all fifteen campuses and UT System Administration, commences."

— Cigarroa in a Sept. 21 memorandum to all the university presidents of the system. In the memorandum, Cigarroa announces the creation of "a rapid response team" chaired by Pedro Reyes, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs and UT professor, and asks all system institutions to appoint a "campus liaison" to "develop their campus action teams to work on implementation."

Making an exception to the rule



By Zoya Waliany
Daily Texan Columnist

As the second round of midterms comes to an end, students' grades are shifting both upward and downward. Some students suffer from senioritis while others are experiencing personal issues, and the tumultuous weather changes are affecting everyone's mood. Fortunately, the University's newly implemented "one-time exception" rule provides students a way out of the chaos that difficult courses can sometimes create.

The one-time exception (OTE) rule provides undergraduate students a one-time only "get out of jail free" card, according to The Daily Texan. If a student wants to drop a course after the Q-drop deadline has passed, this new policy permits students to drop the course until the last day of class. With the standard Q-drop policy, students must elect to drop a course by a specific deadline, after the 12th class day, and the dropped course will show up as a "Q" on students' academic records. Students may Q-drop up to six courses. A course dropped using OTE appears the same way as a Q-dropped course on students' academic records and thus does not penalize students. The OTE differs from Q-drop because a student may use the OTE to drop a course after the Q-drop deadline. Moreover, as it is a backup option, the OTE can only be used once.

The OTE is beneficial to all undergradu-

ate students for many obvious reasons. One important reason is the safeguard it provides for students' GPAs. While academic exploration is a vital part of the college experience and UT should certainly emphasize the importance of learning, the prudent student must also take his or her GPA into consideration for jobs, professional schools or graduate schools. The OTE helps students ensure their GPAs will not be scarred by a particularly challenging weed-out courses taken freshman year or a rigorous upper-division course for which they were not yet prepared. Moreover, nodding to academic curiosity, the OTE provides students the opportunity to be daring and take a class they find truly intellectually stimulating, with the knowledge that the OTE will protect them if necessary.

Furthermore, the OTE takes into consideration the mental health of students. Many undergraduates take on full course loads in addition to part-time jobs, internships and leadership positions on campus. All of these factors account for the high level of stress experienced by many students, which may contribute to underperformance and poor grades in class. According to The New York Times' survey "The American Freshman: National Norms Fall 2010" in which 200,000 incoming undergraduate students were surveyed, 48 percent of students rated themselves as "below average" in mental health, a 12-percent increase from when the survey was conducted in 1985.

Other recent studies found that in gen-

eral, college students experience a higher level of stress because of an assortment of factors. One of these factors includes the demand to perform well in rigorous, high-intensity courses, and as such, this stress can affect students' performance. Students may benefit from the OTE's opportunity to rectify major academic blunders, thereby helping to eliminate some of the stress college students regularly experience. As mental health increasingly becomes a major issue at UT, the OTE demonstrates the University's acknowledgment of this matter and willingness to implement policies to assist students.

The OTE's restrictions – that it may only be used once and that students must speak with an academic adviser before employing it – necessitate that this action not be used lightly. Furthermore, students must have a D+ or lower to use an OTE, ensuring that students will not use this new policy to wander aimlessly through the course catalog. Above all, the OTE demonstrates the commitment of the University to serving the students. It provides a link between students and the institution, as the University recognizes the rigors and challenges of the undergraduate experience and elects to help students with this safety net. A student will likely never use the OTE during his or her academic career, but having the option of this emergency mechanism will benefit a student's academic experience.

Waliany is a Plan II and government senior.



Insights into the interdisciplinary



By Larisa Manescu
Daily Texan Columnist

Students entering university revel in their newfound educational independence: After completing their basic core requirements, they can study whatever interests them. However, after making the initial distinction between science and humanities majors, students tend to cling to their respective choice and to avoid any exploration of the other field. Liberal arts majors often groan at the mention of equations and science majors frequently cringe at the thought of essays, neither recognizing the practical benefits of the other course of study.

We may not despise the other side as much as we think we do, but declaring a major is a type of personal labeling that inevitably causes us to believe, for example, "I'm an English major because I can't do math" or "I'm a biology major because I hate writing." While higher education specialization is necessary and desirable, this narrow-minded perspective on knowledge not only restricts our intellectual scope but also limits our professional possibilities.

Created in 1935, the Plan II Honors program at UT embodies cross-disciplinary study, as it

emphasizes the importance of the sciences and the humanities alike and their real-world applications when unified. However, despite its success in dispelling the respective stereotypes of science and humanities fields by having students study both, its competitive admission makes it exclusive to a relatively small body of students, sidelining the majority of the student population at the University.

The argument against a more holistic higher education experience may rely on the fact that there is simply no room in the majority of students' schedules to include classes from both the humanities and the sciences beyond the basic core requirements. Once a major is declared, there is a very specific track students must follow to graduate on time.

However, certificate programs present every student with the opportunity to specialize in his or her own field while still acquiring knowledge from others. A recently proposed certification program offers pre-med, pre-dental and pre-pharmacy students an opportunity to study their chosen field with the tools of the social sciences and through the lens of the humanities, according to The Daily Texan. Courses such as sociology of health and illness, philosophy of mind and body and global

health are designed to increase students' appeal to medical schools by providing them with a broader education.

While certificate programs are accessible to a wider population of undergraduates, it is ultimately the responsibility of the student to become involved. Students must be willing to put forth the extra effort to seek these programs to enrich their university experience and broaden their professional appeal. In the case of the humanities certification program, many students expressed enthusiastic interest, claiming that their schedules had been too narrow and did not allow for significant exploration of the humanities.

Majors in both the sciences and humanities certainly offer specific indispensable professional skills. The sciences promote innovation and real-world application of methodologies and theories, while the humanities train students in problem solving, analyzing and communication. Since people of both the sciences and humanities often collaborate to encompass such a broad range of knowledge, there is no reason to ignore one while eagerly pursuing the other.

Manescu is an international relations and journalism freshman.

LEGALESE

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Volunteers benefit from drought, remove trash from campus creek

By Sarah Lawson
Daily Texan Staff

Drought has caused the trash in Waller Creek to become more visible, but volunteers used the opportunity to fight the garbage this weekend with a creek clean-up day.

Waller Creek is a small piece of nature that runs through campus, and because of its location in an urban setting, many pollutants are present. The Environmental Health and Safety committee and the Texas Natural Science Center co-sponsored the biannual clean up. Carin Peterson, training and outreach coordinator of Environmental Health and Safety, said the creek needed to be cleaned while it was still low enough so volunteers could reach the majority of the trash.

“Every year, we clean twice a year in the spring and fall,” Peterson said. “This fall, we have about 35 volunteers helping clean up the creek. Luckily, the creek is low. If it were higher, it would be harder to pick up the trash.”

Some students chose to volunteer independently while others came as members of an organization to support the cause. Geology junior Alan Czepinski said he easily made the choice to come out and volunteer for creek cleanup.

“What motivated me to come out and clean is when I ride by on my bike every day and look down at the creek, it is always so dirty, and I wanted to help out the UT community,” Czepinski said. “Plus, they make it so easy for you by providing the gloves and buckets. All you have to do is show up.”

Members of organizations such as undeclared freshman Ju-



Biochemistry sophomore Bryan McGee, left, looks for trash in Waller Creek on Saturday morning. The Environmental Health and Safety committee and the Texas Natural Science Center co-sponsored the clean up.

lian Adame said the creek is an important part of campus that needs to be taken care of.

“The creek is a part of the campus too, and it is nice to see good landscaping,” Adame said. “Our pre-med society, [Alpha Epsilon Delta], is doing this, so we decided to come out and support the cause. The craziest thing we found so far is underwear. We found three pairs so far, and they are not in good shape.”

Most volunteers stayed out of the water and used tongs to

pick up trash. However, McKenzie Henry, safety coordinator for Environmental Health and Safety, put on rubber boot waders and grabbed the trash settled at the bottom of the creek where other volunteers couldn't reach.

“There are newspapers and cups down here in the middle of the creek,” Henry said. “I think when it rains, since the ground is mostly rock, a lot of stuff gets washed down here. Also, the storm drains don't help. Everyone should help keep campus beautiful by volunteering.”



Diana Henriques, senior financial writer for the New York Times, talks about trust issues and the Bernie Madoff scandal Friday morning. Henriques wrote a book after her coverage of the scandal.

Reporter discusses financial markets

By Allison Harris
Daily Texan Staff

A New York Times reporter who interviewed former NASDAQ chairman and financial criminal Bernie Madoff said Madoff was able to perpetrate an international Ponzi scheme in part because of his unique approach to potential investors.

Diana Henriques, senior financial writer at the New York Times, spoke to about 150 people as part of a symposium on law and financial markets hosted by the School of Law.

Madoff's Ponzi scheme was more successful than most partially because of his laidback, unassuming personality, Henriques said.

“Instead of trying to impress you, Madoff seemed impressed by you, and what could be more seductive than that?” Henriques said.

Unlike most schemes, Madoff exploited his fear rather than greed, which allowed him to offer plausible returns, Henriques said.

“It was a brilliant innovation, one that was perfectly timed to bene-

fit from the growing anxiety that a generation trying to save for retirement, a generation terrified by an increasingly complex marketplace, was confronted with,” she said.

Henriques said the Madoff scandal showed the limitations of the current financial system that requires corporations to publish a lot of information about their financial performance when investors who can't understand the information must rely on experts like Madoff.

“Everyone invested in Madoff primarily as a leap of faith, blind faith in someone they had decided to trust for reasons that had nothing to do with the full disclosure and the fine print that our regulators think would keep us safe,” she said.

The symposium on Friday was held to honor the first recipient of the Massey Prize for Research in Law, Innovation and Capital Markets, a \$50,000 award the School of Law will give every two years.

The first Massey Prize was awarded to Robert Litan, the vice president for research and policy at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Massey Prize Selection Committee chose his work, which explained the causes of the 2008 financial crisis, from about 86 submissions, said Massey Prize director Matthew Spitzer.

“He writes highly organized, analytically sound books and articles which are simultaneously accessible to a lot of people,” Spitzer said.

Spitzer said the symposium would help attendees understand issues in the financial marketplace.

“In 2008, we had a worldwide financial cataclysm which produced a whole bunch of misery for a lot of people,” he said. “We're still at 10 percent unemployment. We're still feeling the effects of this.”

Law student Veronica Chidester said she was impressed by Henriques' ability to speak to a broad audience on complex financial issues.

“She simplified the financial discussion enough to where I could understand it, which was nice,” Chidester said. “I really liked how she talked about the human element, about trusting others, because it really made us connect to the victims.”

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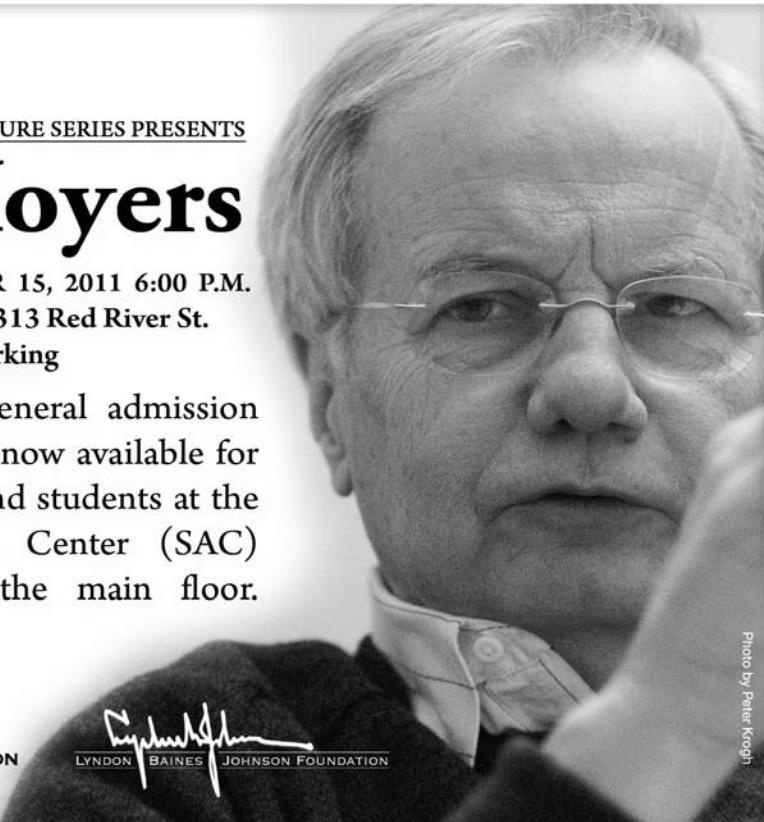


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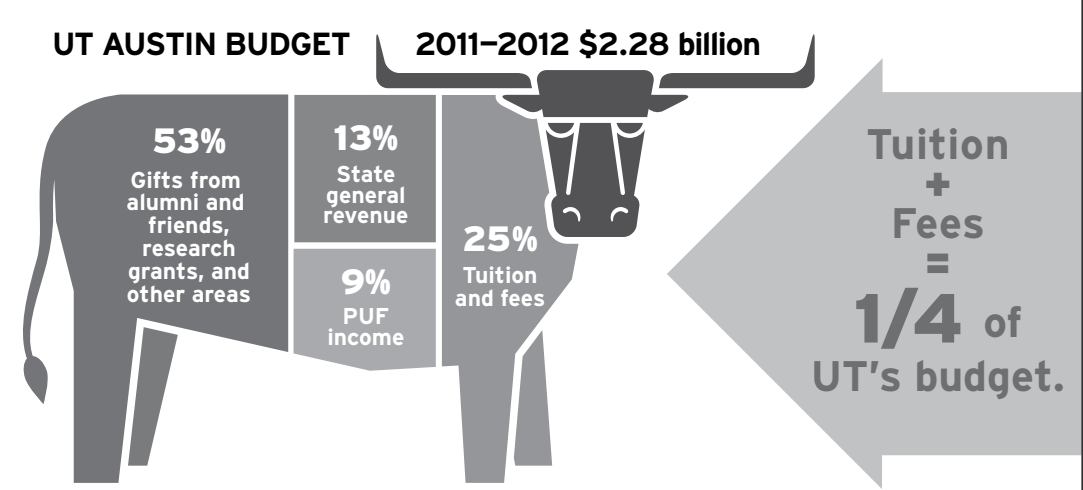
TEXAS

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Students connect to community through Project Reach Out event

By Andrew Messamore
Daily Texan Staff

UT students mulched, cleaned and planted seeds of goodwill across Austin on Saturday as part of Project Reach Out, a volunteering event designed to connect UT students with nonprofit organizations in ways that benefit the community, said Albert Ngo, one of the three co-chairs of Project Reach Out.

The biannual event, which has been running for around 10 years, offered seven projects for UT students to volunteer at on Saturday. Participating organizations ranged from Starbright Preschool to the Austin Heritage Tree Foundation. About 200 students took part in the day of service on Saturday.

"It's a great opportunity to get involved," said Angela Jeon, co-chair of Project Reach Out. "Volunteering can be a huge commitment for people who often have a lot of things going on, and this

lets members bond and give a little back to the Austin Community."

Project Reach Out specifically benefits students who are often unable to actively search for volunteering organizations by connecting the organizations to them, Ngo said.

"We provided an opportunity for UT students to be able to volunteer with agencies across Austin that they would otherwise never have heard of," Ngo said. "Most UT students volunteer because their organizations require hours for them, and they never work outside their organizations. For us, we e-mail the organizations directly four weeks beforehand and connect them with a date for students to come on."

Project Reach Out is part of the Student Volunteer Board, a committee of five students active since 1987 that oversees eight different volunteer programs at UT and coordinates around 8,000 volun-

teers, according to its website.

"We are the largest and only volunteer organization of our kind on campus," said executive director of Student Volunteer Board, Kevin Duong. "We enable student leaders to make a difference on campus and enable UT students to serve the Austin area."

Organizations also benefit from the work of volunteers who are connected to them through Project Reach Out, said Jean Dordek, director and owner of Starbright Preschool, a preschool child center for toddlers that has been working with Project Reach Out for the past 10 years.

"I can't speak highly enough of Project Reach Out," Dordek said. "We've always been delighted with the students, and I doubt we'd be able to do all that we do without them. They're very nice, helpful, willing and friendly, and it's very heartening to see them come out in disheartening times like these."



Zachary Strain | Daily Texan Staff
Sophomore Jonathan Kuo transports gravel at the St. Martin's Worship Park for Project Reach Out on Saturday. Volunteers joined efforts with the Austin Heritage Tree Foundation to improve park conditions.

First waste-free grocery store to open, sell local produce with no packaging

By Sylvia Butanda
Daily Texan Staff

Forty percent of the 1.4 billion pounds of waste that enter landfills in the United States every day is single-use packaging, and a grocery store opening soon hopes to correct the problem.

In.gredients, the first completely waste-free grocery store in the country, promoted the business' plans in partnership with Slow Food UT and Slow Money Texas-Austin at a potluck event Friday. The store, located at 2610 Manor Road, will sell food from local vendors in bulk to customers who bring their own containers.

Joseph Lane, co-founder of in.gredients, said the idea for the store originated at a bar when he and his brother were discussing how the bars on Sixth Street do not recycle bottles and how they wanted to create a business that didn't generate waste.

"We didn't want to be bar owners, so it was something I kicked out that there's other businesses we can do with the same format of removing all the packaging," Lane said.

Jaclyn Anderson, Slow Food UT's education coordinator, said the student organization is designed to educate students about the importance of supporting the local food economy with their consumer choices and by volunteering with local organizations.

Anderson said Slow Food UT is looking forward to the opening of in.gredients because it is in an area where there isn't already a grocery store.

"This can cause people to buy expensive junk food at convenience stores or eat fast food if they are unable to



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff
Catie Cleary, a studio art sophomore, reaches for pita bread at a potluck open house hosted by in.gredients on Friday. The waste-free grocery store plans to open in the next six weeks on Manor Road.

“There has always been a buzz about recycling, but people don’t know it requires tons of energy to do it.”
—Brian Nunnery, in.gredients marketer

make it to a far away store,” Anderson said.

Anderson said local and organic food is expensive because of the current state of the nation's food system.

"By supporting local businesses, our dollars and donated time are making the difference that slow-changing policies are not," Anderson said.

Sophie Eckrich, Slow Money Austin's lead organizer, said the chapter invests in sustainable local food systems.

"We're about catalyzing in-

vestments into local food systems through an investment club where non-accredited investors can pool their money and give out loans to farmers and local food businesses," Eckrich said.

Eckrich said in.gredients is an up-and-coming sustainable business when it comes to the way the store will be structured. She said customers will bring their empty containers from home or purchase compostable containers in the store and fill them with local food produce.

The store is expected to open its doors in six to eight weeks, and there are plans for a coffee shop and lunch space.

Brian Nunnery, marketer for in.gredients, said the "reduce, reuse, and recycle" phrase will be reinvented with the store's opening.

"There has always been a buzz around recycling, but people don't know it requires tons of energy to do it," Nunnery said. "The store will not just recycle. It will reduce what you, as a customer, will use."

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TEXAS

5



17

MISSOURI

Injuries contribute to Longhorns' loss

By Austin Laymance
Daily Texan Staff

COLUMBIA, MO — The Texas Longhorns entered Faurot Field bruised and battered.

They left in even worse shape. Playing without their leading receiver and top two rushers, the Longhorns lost senior tailback Fozzy Whittaker to a knee injury — he tore both his ACL and MCL — on their first drive. From there, the offense sputtered, and Texas fell to Missouri, 17-5, on Saturday afternoon.

“It was just tough for us to gain momentum after that,” said junior receiver Marquise Goodwin.

The Longhorns mustered just 76 rushing yards after going over 400 in each of their last two outings. They converted only five of 17 third downs, and the offense was held to a season-worst 247 yards. Texas did not score a touchdown for the first time since 2004, when they were shutout by Oklahoma, 12-0.

“Inability to move the ball on offense was what cost us the game,” said Texas head coach Mack Brown.

The injuries didn't end with Whittaker. Late in the first quarter, starting linebacker Keenan Robinson injured his right thumb and did not return. Tight end D.J. Grant also left the



L.G. Patterson | Associated Press

Freshman wide receiver Bryant Jackson (16) and freshman quarterback David Ash (14) walk off the field after Texas' 17-5 loss to Missouri. Ash went 13-of-29 for 158 yards. The offense finished the game with no touchdowns. Ash was replaced by sophomore Case McCoy for three third-quarter possessions. The replacement did not help the injured Longhorns recover from the points deficit.

LOSS continues on PAGE 8

MEN'S BASKETBALL TEXAS 82, BOSTON 46



Lawrence Peart | Daily Texan Staff

Texas' freshman guard Sheldon McClellan (1) jumps up with the ball over Boston University's James Kennedy (23). Texas returned no starters from last year's NCAA Tournament.

Texas victorious in season opener

By Trey Scott
Daily Texan Staff

Big men? Who needs 'em. In their season-opener, the Longhorns ran right past Boston 82-46 Sunday in the first round of the TicketCity Legends Classic, relying on strong perimeter play that more than made up for their size

deficiencies down low. “We did get hurt on the offensive boards, but I do think we tried hard,” said Texas head coach Rick Barnes.

Going with a starting five that featured no player taller than 6-foot-7 — the height of both Alexis Wangmene and Jonathan Holmes — Texas got nearly all of its scor-

ing from the outside. Junior shooting guard J'Covan Brown led the team with 28 points, tying a career high, and connected on three shots from the three-point line. With the Longhorns shooting 38 percent in the first half, Brown stepped up, scoring 16 of his 28 points.

OPENER continues on PAGE 8

Brown steps up as leader, finishes with 28 points

By Sameer Bhuchar
Daily Texan Staff

In the same play that Texas almost lost its leader, it found him.

After sinking a three pointer in the waning minutes of the first half, junior guard J'Covan Brown fell to the floor and clutched his ankle. The Frank Erwin Center let out a collective gasp, but not a single coach came to tend to him. He wouldn't have wanted them to anyway.

“The referees said that if someone

came and got me, they'd have to sub me out,” Brown said. “So Myck [Kabongo] came over to me and told me to just get up, and I got up.”

Turns out, it was as simple as getting up for Brown. He easily recovered from the tweak and collected a cool 12 points after the fall and 28 total points on the game. He even contributed eight assists and four rebounds. By the time the second half rolled around, Brown was walking

BROWN continues on PAGE 8



Lawrence Peart | Daily Texan Staff

Brown (14) dribbles during Texas' win on Sunday. The junior tied his career high of 28 points and had eight assists.

SOCCER TEXAS 0, SOUTH CAROLINA 1



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

Hannah Higgins (5) had two shots on goal during Texas' season-ending loss to South Carolina. Although the Longhorns had 11 shots on goal, they could not find the back of the net.

Offense's missed opportunities lead to season-ending 1-0 loss

By Sara Beth Purdy
Daily Texan Staff

After falling behind early, the Longhorns were not able to overcome a deficit in the first round of the NCAA Tournament against the University of South Carolina this past weekend. In the seventh minute of the game, the Gamecocks snuck a shot past junior goal keeper Alexa Gaul to jump to an early lead. After that, both defenses took over, and South Carolina went on to win 1-0.

With the loss, Texas ended its season on another disappointing note and fell to a season record of 11-9-1.

Toward the end of the first half, the

Longhorns had many opportunities to tie the game. Freshman forward Allison Smith launched a couple of shots in the backfield, but quick saves by the Gamecock defenders prevented the Longhorns from tying up the score before halftime.

In the second half, the Longhorns were equally unlucky. Junior forward Vanessa Ibewuikwe missed a clear shot off an assist by fellow junior forward Hannah Higgins. Higgins went on to take a few more unsuccessful shots late in the game.

Despite edging the Gamecocks in shots taken and shots on goal, the Texas offense was unable to prevent the loss.

SIDELINE

NFL

TEXANS
37

BUCANEERS
9

BILLS
7

COWBOYS
44

CARDINALS
21

EAGLES
17

PATRIOTS
37

JETS
16

TWEET OF THE DAY

FOZZY WHITTAKER
@CaptnAmerica2
“I may be done for the season because of my knee but my team is not! I appreciate everybody's wishes and prayers! They will help me through!”

AP TOP 25

1	LSU
2	Oklahoma State
3	Alabama
4	Oregon
5	Oklahoma
6	Arkansas
7	Clemson
8	Stanford
9	Virginia Tech
10	Boise State
11	Houston
12	Michigan State
13	Georgia
14	South Carolina
15	Wisconsin
16	Kansas State
17	Nebraska
18	USC
19	TCU
20	Michigan
21	Penn State
22	Southern Miss
23	Florida State
24	Notre Dame
25	Baylor

Texas' Yvonne Anderson takes on Stanford's Lindy La Rocque during Texas' season opener on Friday. Anderson had 13 points in the loss.



Andrea Macias-Jimenez
Daily Texan Staff

Longhorns impress despite loss

By Nick Cremona
Daily Texan Staff

It's not often that schools open up the regular season with a matchup against one of the nation's top teams. The Longhorns did just that over the weekend when they hosted No. 5 Stanford.

In the end, the Cardinals' depth gave them the edge over the Longhorns as they were able to pull out a 72-59 victory. It's definitely not a loss to be ashamed of, as Stanford will most likely be in contention for the national title come season's end. Head coach Gail Goetsenkers had been 4-0 in season openers at Texas until the loss, but losing does provide the team with the opportunity to learn from its mistakes.

"This was a great opening game. We are going to be able to learn a lot from this game and grow from it," said Goetsenkers. "A lot of times, teams start with easy matchups, win by 20, but they don't grow from those games."

Tonight's game against Southeastern Louisiana (1-0) will be a much different game for the Longhorns. The Lady Lions are an extremely young team, with

seven players making their collegiate debut in the Lions' first game, an 83-54 win over Centenary. It will be only the third time the two teams have faced off, with the series currently tied at 1-1. The Lady Lions are not nearly as tall or talented as Stanford, but in order for Texas to come out on top, it does need to improve some areas of its game.

For starters, Texas must hit open shots. It seems simple enough, but against Stanford, the Longhorns shot 20-59 (33.9 percent) from the field and just 1-11 (9.1 percent) from beyond the three-point line. The Cardinals also out-rebounded the Longhorns 45-37 in the game, with forward Chiney Ogwumike grabbing 14 total rebounds, including 10 on the offensive end.

"Overall, our defense was pretty good," Goetsenkers said. "But giving up the offensive rebounds hurt us down the stretch."

Redshirt sophomore center Cokie Reed made her first appearance in over a year against the Cardinals after undergoing knee surgery last year. Reed logged a career-high 31 minutes while scoring 11 points and grabbing eight rebounds. She must be a presence on the block

in order for the Longhorns to defeat the Lady Lions.

"Cokie is going to demand a double team," Goetsenkers said. "Now we know how to deal with it, and we'll have to be more aggressive and knock down open shots."

Reed is the key to the Longhorns' success on offense this year. Sophomore guard Chassidy Fussell should stand out as the team's leading scorer once again this season, but Texas needs another scorer to lighten the load for Fussell. Reed provides a big body in the post, and not many teams, including the Lady Lions, will have the size to stop her. She's going to get double-teamed more times than not, and that's when opportunities will arise for other players to step up as well.

"I need to look for my guards to be open when I get double teamed," said Reed.

If Reed can find her guards open and they can knock down those shots, this team should have no problem defeating the Lady Lions. The size and experience of Texas should give the Lady Lions fits and the Longhorns have an excellent opportunity to improve their record to 1-1.

LOSS continues from PAGE 7

game with knee discomfort.

Freshman receiver Jaxon Shipley did not dress for the straight week with a knee injury. Freshman tailbacks Malcolm Brown (turf toe) and Joe Bergeron (hamstring) suited up but did not play.

"They were running [on the sideline] during the game even to see if they could play, and the trainers didn't think they should," Mack Brown said. "We're not going to put one out there if he's not ready."

That trio had accounted for the majority of the Longhorns' offensive production this season. Without them, Texas (6-3; 3-3 Big 12) struggled to find its rhythm and lost for the first time in three weeks.

"Everything had to change, and, obviously, it didn't work very well," said Brown, who lost to Missouri for

the first time in seven tries.

David Ash started his fourth-straight game but couldn't get in sync with his receivers, and a gusting wind hampered the passing game. He went 13-for-29 for 158 yards and was intercepted at the end of the first half.

"I overthrew some with the wind, and I underthrew some against the wind," Ash said. "I didn't rise to the occasion like I wanted to."

Missouri (5-5, 3-4) took control of the game in the second quarter. Quarterback James Franklin capped a nine-play, 83-yard drive with a two-yard touchdown run.

On the Tigers' next possession, Texas had a chance to keep the game within reach, but a costly penalty on a questionable call led to a score.

Longhorns safety Kenny Vaccaro stopped De'Vion Moore for a two-yard loss on third down but was flagged for a personal foul for illegal helmet-to-helmet contact.

On the ensuing play, Kendial Lawrence sprinted 35 yards for a touch-

down to give MU a 14-3 advantage.

"It was a momentum shift," said Vaccaro, a junior. "You think you have a third down stop, and then all of a sudden, a big penalty like that brings you down."

Aside from the mountain of injuries, it was still a forgettable day for the Longhorns.

They had a punt blocked in the third quarter and missed a 53-yard field goal.

For Missouri, though, the victory could be the spark that turns its season around.

"I was really proud of our football team, and it was definitely a gut-check," said Tigers head coach Gary Pinkel.

After looking like a team on the rise following two straight wins, the Longhorns now have a number of question marks, most notably the health of their once dominant running game.

"We have to go back and start over on Monday," Brown said.

BROWN continues from PAGE 7

up and down the court with a swagger that screamed "challenge me" to the Boston University Terriers.

BU's first-year head coach, Joe Jones, was happy his team didn't have to challenge Brown anymore after the game.

"[Brown] doesn't need a lot of time to get it off," Jones said. "He shoots with a lot of confidence, and anytime we made a poor decision on how to guard him, he made us pay."

Brown said he felt "comfortable" all game, and it was evident from the get-go. He opened up the game with a quick three pointer to give Texas its first points. He lit the score board up from then on, hitting 52 percent of his shots on 10 of 19 shooting.

Head coach Rick Barnes entrusted Brown with a leadership role at the start of the season, and he didn't disappoint. He worked so efficiently that he had already matched his career high in points — 28 — with

13 minutes left in the game.

When the match was out of reach, Brown wasn't done. He scrapped trying to simply add to his record point total and focused instead on dishing the ball around. He made a laser pass to the corner to find an open Julien Lewis for the trey which was a decision Barnes was especially pleased with. Barnes said his guard's smart passing decisions are attributable to Brown's "cerebral style of play."

"JCovan had eight assists and he probably could've shot all of those if he wanted to," Barnes said. "But he's got a great feel for the game, and great vision."

He registered the stats, but what won't show up in the box score were Brown's teaching moments. Not only did he lead by example on the floor, but he verbally coached his undeveloped teammates on how to cut to the basket, find the team's open shooters and keep the offense moving.

"When I'm the junior guard, I can preach that stuff to the young guys and then they learn how to feed off of that," Brown said.

By the time he left the game with 5:30 remaining, Texas had the game locked down. Brown went to the bench with a smile not even knowing the extent of his record night until the post-game press conference. Instead, he was more excited about how well his young teammates adapted to the game.

"I didn't know," Brown said in regards to tying his career high in points. "My teammates did a great job out there to find me."

Brown is finally in the position many expected him to eventually assume. He is Texas' most prolific scorer and he'll likely need to continue that style of play to keep the Longhorns afloat until the young guns develop their already visible individual talent. Until then, Brown is happy playing the role of the all-rounder on a team that will have to do all the little things right to succeed this year.

"This year we are hyper. We will use our speed to get us over the hump," Brown said of this squad's identity. "We have to keep fighting as a unit."

At least for one night, Brown came out swinging.

OPENER continues from PAGE 7

"Some nights I might have a good night, but these guys will

still have to step up and score," Brown said.

The Longhorns (1-0) looked overmatched at times on the interior, allowing Boston 10 offensive rebounds in the first half alone. But

that's the risk you take when you trot out a lineup heavy on guards, the reward of that being the ability to stretch the floor. Texas cashed in on that, scoring 15 fast break points.

"Their speed and quickness took it out of us," said Boston's first-year coach Joe Jones. "They need to be happy with what they did."

"We've got guys who can shoot the ball and we're going to get out and run in transition," Barnes said.

Texas took advantage of an open perimeter with 11 three-point baskets, four coming from freshman guard Julien Lewis, who was most effective standing in the corner and capitalizing on catch-and-shoot opportunities.

"That's Julien's job," said freshman point guard Myck Kabongo. "Everybody has a job, and that's his, to knock down open shots."

Lewis got all but three of 18 points in the second half and undoubtedly benefited from the Terriers (0-2) paying most of their attention to Brown, who dished out a career-high eight assists.

The flashy Kabongo didn't disappoint in his debut, either. The Toronto native had just six points but notched seven assists — tying the most by a freshman in an opener since D.J. Augustin in 2006.


"I was so excited I couldn't sleep," Kabongo said. "I probably didn't go to bed until 3 a.m. On behalf of the six freshman, I'll say that we're very excited to get that first win out of the way."

As for that lack of size, Brown expects the team to find a way to compensate.

"Last year, we were bigger and stronger. When teams shot the ball, Tristan [Thompson] and Gary [Johnson] were on every rebound, so guards never had to help. This year, we have to use our speed and do things as a unit."

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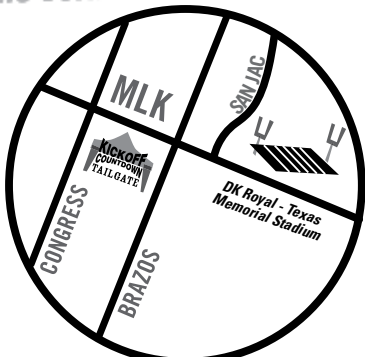
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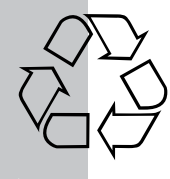
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WEEKEND RECAP

WOMEN’S TRACK

Sophomores help team finish second

By Wes Maulsby
Daily Texan Staff

Texas earned a bid to the NCAA Championships with a second-place finish the South Central Regional Championship on Saturday. “I am very glad that we met our objective of qualifying for the NCAA Championships,” said coach Steve Sisson. The Longhorns finished second to Arkansas in the 6K race in Waco. “Arkansas came out and had an amazing day so credit goes to them,” Sisson said. Texas finished 20 points behind the Razorbacks for second place, ahead of Texas A&M, SMU and Rice. Two sophomores led Texas, with Sara Sutherland finishing fourth and Marielle Hall finishing seventh.

“I felt like today was a good day for me,” Sutherland said. “I got to run the race with three of my teammates which gives great energy to everyone.” Megan Siebert, another sophomore, had the third-best time for the Longhorns, with a 13th overall finish. “I am very happy with Sara’s race,” Sisson said. “She executed a perfect race plan, one that we designed for her. She has become one of the best runners in the country, and we expect great things from her at the national championships. I also thought Marielle and Megan ran solid races.” Texas had two more runners in the top 25, with seniors Laleh Mojtabaezamani finishing 22nd and Mia Behm finishing 23rd. Junior Julie Amthor finished 31st, and sophomore Brittany Marches finished 40th.



Sara Sutherland
Runner

“We are looking forward to NCAA Championships and an opportunity to improve on last year’s performance and compete with the best in the country,” Sisson said. The NCAA Championships will take place on Nov. 21 at the Gibson Championship Course in Terre Haute, Ind.

MEN’S TRACK

Texas earns NCAA tournament berth

By Wes Maulsby
Daily Texan Staff

Texas won the South Central Regional Championship on Saturday, which guarantees the Longhorns a berth in the NCAA Championships in two weeks. “The whole team was really excited about today’s race, and it was definitely something we knew we were capable of and it was great to beat a lot of really good teams,” said junior Rory Tunningley. Freshman Craig Lutz continues to have a strong season as he finished third with a time of 30:48.2. Close behind Lutz was sophomore Ryan Dohner whose time of 30:48:2 was good for fifth. “When you are working with

a teammate, it is a lot easier to mentally stay with it for the entire race,” Dohner said. Overall, Texas finished with 40 points, which was 16 more than second place Texas A&M. Arkansas, Lamar and UTSA rounded out the top five. Lutz and Dohner led the team, but three other runners helped the Longhorns take first place. Tunningley’s ninth place finish gave Texas three top 10 runners. Freshman Mark Pinales and senior Brock Simmons finished 13th and 14th overall. Having three runners in the top 15 gave the Longhorns the overwhelming lead. Texas will finish the season next Monday at the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind.



Craig Lutz
Runner

VOLLEYBALL

Kocher creates opportunities in win

By Chris Hummer
Daily Texan Staff

The No. 8 Longhorns (18-4, 21-1 in Big 12) had a quartet of players with double-digit kills Saturday against Kansas State, which was more than enough as the team rolled to a four-set win over the Wildcats. Sophomore Bailey Webster, freshman Haley Eckerman, junior Sha’Dare McNeal and senior Rachael Adams were sensational, but they attributed their strong game to setter Michelle Kocher, who came in early in the match to replace sophomore Hannah Allison. “I think Michelle has been set-

ting really well in practice. She just kind of had a really good demeanor about it,” said head coach Jerriett Elliott. “I felt like our rhythm wasn’t good. It didn’t have all to do with Hannah. But I just felt like I had seen some good stuff out of Michelle in the last few weeks of practice. I just felt like it could happen.” Kocher performed well in her time on the court, placing balls well for her hitters while leading the Longhorns with 40 assists. “I had confidence in what she could do, and I knew she would come in and do a good job for us,” Elliott said. “We have a lot of talent. That’s the great part about



Michelle Kocher
Setter

this team. But it’s been bigger that she’s been ready to come in and play, and play at that level.”

MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Caskey, D’Innocenzo win two events

By Matt Warden
Daily Texan Staff

The No. 2 Longhorns crept back into the win column on Friday with a victory over the SMU Mustangs, 154 to 127. Senior Neil Caskey continued his dominant year by winning both the 100-yard butterfly and 200-yard freestyle, with times of 48.56 and 1:40.56, respectively. Junior Nick D’Innocenzo also did well, winning the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard IM. Veterans weren’t the only competitors that came up big,

as freshman Clay Youngquist placed first in the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 1:49.31, and freshman Kip Darmody won the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:52.32. Other individual swimming winners for the men were senior Jackson Wilcox in the 1,000-yard freestyle and sophomore Patrick Murphy in the 500-yard freestyle. Senior diver Matt Cooper added to his supreme season by winning the one-meter diving competition with a total of 395.25 points. The men hope to keep this momentum for the rest of the



Neil Caskey
Swimmer

month, leading up to the Texas Invitational in Austin on Dec. 1.



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By DAVID OUELLET

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THE SCOVILLE SCALE

Solution: 9 letters

D	E	D	D	A	C	S	W	E	E	T	E	S	T	S
I	E	R	U	P	T	E	E	D	S	S	A	L	C	C
R	L	D	A	I	N	C	L	L	S	O	I	L	N	
A	E	I	N	G	N	A	I	Y	I	I	P	I	A	T
G	V	U	H	E	S	O	W	H	R	T	M	G	C	N
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S	L	A	A	D	N	B	A	Ⓚ	T	S	V	D	T	M
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Y	E	I	N	N	O	A	M	A	N	Ⓢ	R	Y	M	R
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D	B	R	T	R	U	C	F	E	E	I	C	S	H	S
C	A	E	E	B	O	E	G	P	P	H	I	K	T	A
S	S	P	L	H	D	A	P	S	O	P	A	I	A	E
T	U	I	O	L	C	E	T	S	A	T	O	N	M	M
S	W	L	N	Y	R	O	T	C	A	F	S	O	A	K

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2	1	8	9	4	3	6	7	5
7	9	6	8	5	1	4	3	2
4	5	3	6	7	2	1	8	9
5	8	7	1	2	6	3	9	4
9	2	1	5	3	4	8	6	7
6	3	4	7	9	8	5	2	1
8	6	2	4	1	9	7	5	3
3	4	5	2	6	7	9	1	8
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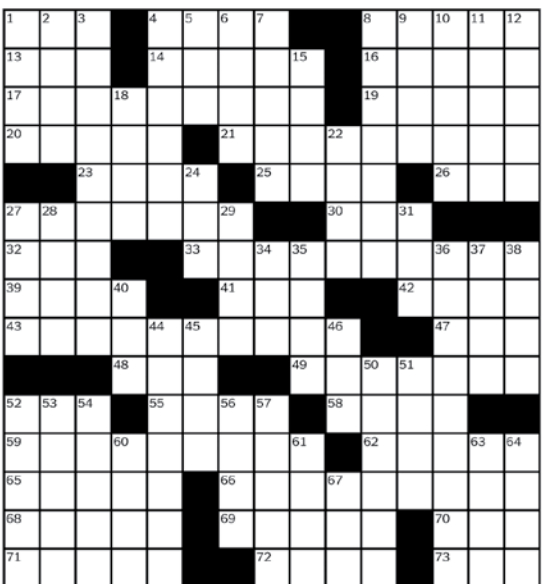
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- Across**
- Scratch
 - Cries out loud
 - Football team with a blue horseshoe on its helmet
 - Wan Kenobi
 - Annoying computer message
 - Nail a test
 - Stogie holder
 - Letter after eta
 - Kitchen range
 - Florida city on the Gulf
 - Singer Home
 - the Explorer (Nickelodeon show)
 - NBC skit show since '75
 - What a TV host often reads from
 - Type
- Down**
- The buck stops here pres.
 - Place to hang a jacket
 - Words in an analogy
 - Thurman of Hollywood
 - Pet lovers' org.
 - Sign of alien life, some say
 - Chihuahua's bark
 - Tiny amount
 - Army do
 - HBO alternative
 - Fishing sticks
 - I cannot tell
 - Fessed up
 - Follow
 - Japanese port
 - The French
 - Open is the only Grand Slam tournament played on this

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I	P	O	D	A	D	I	A	U	S	E	M	E
N	A	R	R	A	T	O	R	S	P	I	X	A
M	A	C	I	N	T	O	S	H	S	T	P	A
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			N	E	V		A	O	L	E	R	
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Edited by Will Shortz No. 1010



Puzzle by Ian C. Livingston

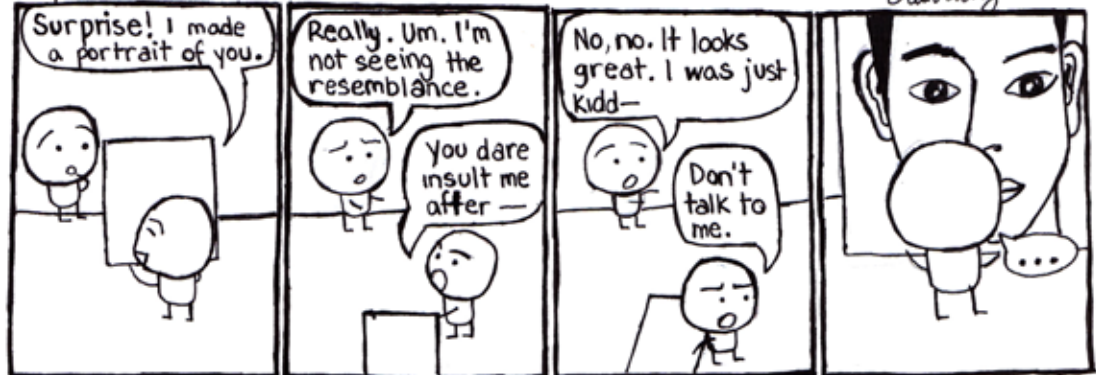
- 38 President whose father co-founded Yale's Skull and Bones
- 40 Choose (to)
- 44 Auto maintenance
- 45 One who's worshiped
- 46 of Good Feelings
- 50 Chooses for office
- 51 Excessive lover of the grape
- 52 Get a move on
- 53 Waste maker, in a proverb
- 54 Midwest city whose name is a poker variety
- 56 All 52 cards
- 57 Leafy course
- 60 Just manages, with "out"
- 61 California's Valley
- 63 Longing
- 64 School on the Thames
- 67 "Dee-lish!"

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BIKES

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made a Tour de France competitor pedal back home.

The race started around 3 p.m. after a morning's worth of setting up obstacles and challenges, explaining the rules and gathering supplies — everything from candy canes to cow stomachs. The six teams, each one represented on the course by two riders who were responsible for completing 50 laps apiece, took their places at the starting line in the front of 21st Street Co-op.

No amount of training could prepare them for what would come next, said Ben Baron, an economics senior who rode in two previous MF 100 races and also biked to Alaska with Texas 4000 in 2010.

"There's really no way to train for this ride because it changes every year," he said. "I walked the track last night in the middle of the night under the cover of darkness — every rider should have some mental stretches that they do in order to compete properly. Mine are just being alone with my thoughts and the course."

The riders, mentally stretched or not, fidgeted in their positions. Then one of the woman police officers dropped a pink handkerchief and everyone charged forward, but only after chugging their first beer.

As the racers barreled recklessly around the course, which featured sharp-cornered geographic monstrosities like "The Devil's Crooked Sphincter," their respective team members busied themselves by downing beer-bongs — a home-made device constructed from a funnel, a tube and beer.

Every time a beer-bong was finished the team responsible earned a shortcut, kept track of by the Mayor himself. A shortcut gave riders ac-

cess to the "Highway to Hell," which effectively reduced the length of the course by about one-third. ACDC's "Highway to Hell," played on full blast over and over again, providing some ambiance to that area of the track.

"The whole point of there drinking in the race is that everybody has a part in it," said Gregg Wehmeier, a 2010 RTF graduate who founded the MF 100 for a documentary class project in 2007. "Everybody here helps determine the race."

And then there were the challenges — more this year than ever before — which riders had to confront after they met certain checkpoints in the race, like completing 25, 33 and 50 laps, for example.

"This is going to be the messiest, most disgusting, hardest race yet," Wehmeier said. "If each rider doesn't puke at least three times I'm going to be absolutely shocked."

The "North Pole" was the first obstruction, and it gave competitors the chance to cool down in a trash can filled with ice-water while they sucked furiously on candy canes. Once all the red was sucked off the tip of the candy cane, a scantily clad Santa Claus, who was overseeing the challenge, gave them the go ahead to move on to the next obstacle.

That would be the "gastric challenge," which Wehmeier called "unbelievably disgusting," and Hailey said "gave 'Fear Factor' a run for their money" — both claims that the racers who ended up vomiting could probably agree with. The challenge consisted of several "mystery boxes," each one hiding a different food item (vegetarian options available) underneath. There was the cow stomach ("it's too chewy,"

"This is the stupidest race I've ever done in my life."
— Fry, Team Jerk

reported an unfortunate biker), the octopus, a bar of fruity paste, a spam sandwich, pickled herring, beef jerky and more.

Once riders chose and ate their fate — Hailey said it was their own fault if they picked something horrible — they got to continue racing, dodging wizards, water balloons and vicious lady police officers until lap number 33.

That's when Alex Trebek's Spanish-television counterpart "Alejandro Trebek," coached competitors through the "cognitive challenge" — "built off of last year's wildly popular maple syrup-covered jigsaw puzzle," according to Hailey. This year's challenge put players head to head as they constructed various LEGO structures covered with pure silicone lubricant.

"I feel like this is a great experience for us, especially as an internal marketing event," Joshua Sabik, who lives at 21st and is the advertising and marketing coordinator for College Houses, said. "It really highlights the positive aspects of the community environment at 21st Street. We come together, we get on our bikes, we race, a few people have drinks. It's a lot of fun."

That fun got a healthy dose of artistry at lap 50 when each team's first rider traded places with the second. The switch couldn't hap-

pen, however, until both entered "Vincent van Gogh's Still-life Conservatory," a kitchen-turned-art studio. Inside the Conservatory, a maniac 19th century Dutch Impressionist painter with a bloody nub for an ear, played by co-op member Aaron Goldman, a studio art senior, gave competitors a lesson in "expressing themselves," as Goldman put it before the race started.

This involved one rider painting the other's nude portrait, a task made more complicated by van Gogh's passionate, hard-to-meet demands. If a portrait didn't pass van Gogh's discerning eye, he would rip it up, sometimes using his teeth and scream at the artists-in-training to start over.

"You call this art?" he screeched at his racer-pupils as he ripped their work up and commanded them to begin again.

Then each team's second rider manned his bike and the whole race essentially started over again. When they finished their 50 laps, the race was declared over. "Team Jerk" ended up finishing in first place.

"This is the stupidest race I've ever done in my life," said Fry, who rode for Team Jerk and doesn't have a last name. "So much fun."

ROBOTS

continues from PAGE 12

Campus, drives reliably at 30 mph, performs three-point turns and can reroute itself when confronted with road blocks or other unexpected barriers. The car has a camera that it uses to identify other vehicles or obstacles in the road, but it relies on differential GPS to stay on the road.

By connecting with multiple satellites, the car can determine its position within 50 centimeters — a commercial GPS system is only reliable

within 50 meters. Stone said that in many ways, the technology for a fully functioning autonomous car is already available, but there are legal and economic barriers that have to be removed before self-driving cars become a viable option.

"Can we make a car that is a better driver than a person? Arguably, that's not that hard of a task given what we have right now," Stone said. "Partly because people aren't very good drivers."

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BRAIN

continues from PAGE 12

the Greeks, but we are at least somewhat informed of its mechanisms and paths that we can take to investigate it. The book is clear and well-written, despite being very dense with ideas, and leaves the reader wanting

to know more about the subject. However our brain works, Gazaniga makes sure to keep its wheels spinning: whatever you think about the way we think, it likely won't be the same once you're finished with his book.

SCIENTIST

continues from PAGE 12

take away from it.

Still, that's not that big of a deal when you consider that you will now know what would happen if you jumped into a pool of jelly. "Why Can't Elephants Jump?" may not be a classic of the science

genre like "The Selfish Gene" or "The Demon Haunted World," but it is a fun read and will provide hours of coffee shop discussions about things that science can answer, but usually doesn't take the time to.

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‘Extreme’ bike race takes over co-op



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

MF 100 team members line up to drink beer from beer-bongs on Sunday as part of 21st Street Co-op's annual bike race that dares riders to circle the co-op 50 times each while encountering outrageous challenges along the way. If the riders' team members drink one full beer-bong, they are granted a short cut, allowing them to finish a loop faster.

By Aaron West
Daily Texan Staff

Some might consider Lance Armstrong to be Austin's claim to fame as far as cycling is concerned, but when it comes to extreme bike racing, let's just say that Armstrong hasn't ever wolfed down a boiled octopus in 21st Street Co-op's infamously brutal MF 100.

"I think Lance Armstrong would tank in this race," said Will Wolfe, a geology senior and an organizer of the MF 100 bike race. "He probably doesn't have the stomach for it, honestly. Or the technical abilities. This course is basically just a perilous urban single-track hell. There are so many dangerous little turns and there's so many bad little obstacles that I think he would just shit his pants."

The MF 100 — short for an explosive and how many times each team has to bike around the 21st Street Co-op — is billed as "the most extreme bike race in Travis County," according to race organizers. The sixth annual race, which took place on Sunday and was attended by

about 100 people, pushed that reputation to the edge of sanity.

"This year's race is going to blow last year's race out of the water," Wolfe said before Sunday's event. "We have taken every precaution and pulled out all of the stops and there is nothing that we've held back. I'm talking about major investments in both time and money. Sweat, blood, tears and all the bodily fluids have been incorporated in this race. I think a lot of people are going to be very, very surprised with what they're going to find."

One-hundred bruising laps around the Co-op was only the beginning. In the midst of that treachery there were several obstacles which riders had to deal with along the way. Also, don't forget about the 600 water balloons being hurled at random, the ravenous beer-slurping team members hungry for victory, a vicious gang of costumed police women with a license to brutalize and a mischievous wizard named Murflin who had the power to curse riders' bikes, leaving them to scoot helplessly for one lap around

the track on a brakeless, gearless shell of a bicycle.

"Really this race is all about 'you will do what we ask you to do,'" said Ryan Hailey, a 2010 RTF graduate and former 21st Street member who flew in from Los Angeles to reprise his

role as "the Mayor," who facilitates the race. "And you being able to do that is what will win the race. So whatever it takes. Whatever it takes."

"Whatever it takes" might have

BIKES continues on PAGE 11



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

In the first obstacle that riders encounter, Ted Barry takes part in the North Pole Challenge, which entails jumping into icy water while sucking on a candy cane given by a costumed Santa Claus. Once participants have licked off the very top of the candy cane, they are allowed to continue the race.

Professor, students develop complex robots

By Clayton Wickham
Daily Texan Staff

As an educator, associate computer science professor Peter Stone has a unique perspective on who, or what, can learn. Stone has spent his time at UT working with students to develop intelligent robots capable of learning and adapting to their environments.

He is the director of the Learning Agents Research Group and works with graduate students developing and programming complex robots that compete in international contests, such as the RoboCup for soccer and the Urban

Challenge for autonomous vehicles — cars that drive themselves.

The soccer RoboCup has a league with real robots and a league where teams program virtual robots to play in a simulation with near life-like conditions. Last July, the UT team made its seventh appearance in the RoboCup. The team ranked among the top eight in the real robot competition and won first place in the soccer simulation.

The key to their success in the simulation league, where virtual robots play soccer on a virtual field, Stone said, was a machine-learning algorithm they used to develop a walk that outpaced all the oth-

er teams. Rather than spend tedious hours trying out different virtual walks and fine-tuning the best one, Stone and his team created a program with parameters that allowed robots to perfect a walk on their own through a kind of automated trial and error.

"It was our secret weapon. We could not have hand-coded anything nearly as good. Most of the other teams were doing it by hand, and we beat them because we did it with learning," Stone said.

In recent years, undergraduates as well as grad students have gotten involved with LARG through its Freshman Research Initiative

“Can we make a car that is a better driver than a person? Arguably, that's not that hard of a task given what we have right now.”

—Peter Stone,
Associate computer science professor



Elisabeth Dillon | Daily Texan Staff

Associate computer science professor Peter Stone demonstrates the use of one of his soccer playing robots. The robots compete in RoboCup, a soccer game with robots as the players

ROBOTS continues on PAGE 11

BOOK REVIEW WHO'S IN CHARGE?

Scientist's book explores mystery of brain function



“Who's in Charge? Free Will and the Science of the Brain”

Michael Gazzaniga

Genre: Science/Philosophy

Fort fans of: Oliver Sacks, Steven Pinker

Grade: A

By Robert Starr
Daily Texan Staff

Why are you reading this article?

It's a simple question, but if there's any truth to the findings of neuroscience, the answer you give is a justification by a part of your brain that had nothing to do with the part that made the decision in the first place. Scientists can analyze brain scans and note that a person's brain makes the decision for a patient to lift his arm before the patient himself realizes he has. How is this even possible?

The answer is a definitive “We're not sure,” and Michael S. Gazzaniga's new book, “Who's in Charge?” spends more than 200 pages explaining that we don't know. However, it still manages to be an utterly captivating and fascinating read that addresses issues of consciousness and free will and, in the end, offers suggestions as to how these ideas may or may not inform legal matters.

Gazzaniga spends a good portion of the book addressing investigations of so-called “split brain”

patients. These patients undergo a surgery that literally cuts their brains in half (the procedure prevents a specific type of rare seizure that some people suffer from) and, while they feel and act like perfectly normal human beings after the procedure, there are specific experiments that reveal the side effects. These experiments, explained in detail in the book, are phenomenally interesting and suggest that the brain is not one coherent unit, but several pieces that work together as a whole. And one of those pieces is in charge of putting everything together, providing the illusion of “one-ness.”

These split-brain experiments also suggest a terrifying thought: that we don't have free will. But by the time readers get to this point in the book, the question isn't whether or not we have free will, but what the concept of free will even means. Gazzaniga describes the idea of consciousness as being an “emergent property.” Our brains may just be a bunch of chemicals and neurons, but that's not necessarily an effective way of understanding the situation. One can't understand traffic just by looking at individual cars — it has properties that are completely separate than those of the cars that make it up.

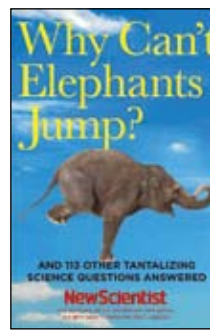
“Who's in Charge?” is a wonderful example of how questions can often be more interesting than answers. Consciousness doesn't seem to be any better understood than it was in the time of

These split-brain experiments also suggest a terrifying thought: that we don't have free will.

BRAIN continues on PAGE 11

BOOK REVIEW WHY CAN'T ELEPHANTS JUMP?

New Scientist collection answers trivial questions



“Why Can't Elephants Jump? And 113 Other Tantalizing Science Questions Answered”

The Editors of the New Scientist

Genre: Science
For those who like: “Factoids”

Grade: B-

By Robert Starr
Daily Texan Staff

While scientists are out there working on the big questions like the nature of matter, the meaning of time and what dark energy is, they're not working on the truly important questions that affect average everyday people. Questions like, “Why does shaking a martini make it taste better than stirring it?” or “How long of a line could you draw with a single pencil?” The editors of New Scientist have put together a collection of such questions along with the best answers submitted to them in “Why Can't Elephants Jump?” and the result is delightful, if insignificant.

The book is divided into eight chapters, each composed of questions submitted by readers related to a given subject, along with some possible answers submitted by other readers. Sometimes the answers conflict, but that's part

of what science is: heated debate over trivial questions.

As such, these aren't necessarily definitive answers and more than a few may leave readers scratching their heads thinking, “That can't be right,” which again, isn't necessarily a bad thing.

However, what's bad is the unsatisfactory explanations of how we know. Most answers are provided with authority as the only reason to believe them, rather than descriptions of experiments that someone's performed. Science's explanatory power is its most valuable element, but that rests — sometimes teetering on — its experimental backbone.

As a result, there's no real insight that one takes away from the book. It's entertaining enough, and while one will close its final pages having learned factoids, there's no big picture to

SCIENTIST continues on PAGE 11